

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SY-05 OC-05 CCO-00 OPR-02

A-01 AID-05 OMB-01 SAB-01 IO-10 PER-01 EB-07 COME-00

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O 061226Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2373

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 6444

ATTENTION: ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, AFSP, IR

SUBJ: SECURITY SITUATION IN TEHRAN

REF: STATE 158885

1. WHILE RECENT ASSASSINATION OF FSL HOSNAN RECONFIRMS OUR ONGOING ASSUMPTION THAT BOTH CIVILIAN AND MILITARY MEMBERS OF OUR MISSION ARE ACTIVE TARGETS, WE DO NOT BELIEVE OBJECTIVES OF RECENT SITUATION HAS CHANGED SIGNIFICANTLY FROM WHAT IT HAS BEEN ALL ALONG. THE TERRORISTS HAVE PLEDGED TO ASSASSINATE NINE RPT NINE AMERICAN OFFICIALS; THEY HAVE SUCCEEDED TWICE AND MADE A MISTAKE ONCE--LEAVING SEVEN TO GO. WE MUST NOW GO ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THEY INTEND TO MAKE GOOD ON THEIR THREAT. INCIDENTALLY, WE BELIEVE THE TERRORISTS WERE CHAGRINED TO LEARN THAT THEY HAD KILLED AN IRANIAN BY MISTAKE, FOR WE HAVE RECEIVED NO PHONE CALLS OR LETTERS CLAIMING CREDIT FOR HOSNAN'S ASSASSINATION IN CONTRAST TO PAST PRACTICES. THE ASSASSINATION OF HOSNAN ON JULY 3 DID ILLUSTRATE, HOWEVER, THE PROFESSIONALISM OF THE TERRORISTS AND THEIR ABILITY TO CHANGE THEIR METHODS OF OPERATIONS TO FIT CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES. IT
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ALSO POINTED UP THE NEED FOR EVEN MORE STRINGENT PROTECTIVE

MEASURES THAN HAVE BEEN TAKEN UP TO NOW. ACCORDINGLY WE HAVE INSTITUTED OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF INSTITUTING THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL MEASURES:

A. THE IDENTIFICATION OF COURIER RUNS, BANK-TRANSFER SCHEDULES, DUTY-OFFICER PICKUPS, AND OTHER REGULAR TRANSPORTATION ROUTES IN ORDER TO SCATTER TIMING AND ROUTING OF SUCH TRIPS.

B. THE ADDITION OF GOI ARMED GUARDS ON SHUTTLE AND COURIER RUNS.

C. THE MINISTER-COUNSELOR AND SELECTED MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY ELEMENTS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED WITH ARMED GOI ESCORTS WHEN DRIVING IN THE CITY.

D. THE FORMATION OF A U.S. MISSION COMMITTEE HEADED BY THE DCM TO CONSIDER AUTHORIZING SELECTED PERSONNEL TO CARRY WEAPONS PROVIDED THEY CAN DEMONSTRATE WEAPONS HANDLING PROFICIENCY AND THE TRAINING OF ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL IN WEAPONS HANDLING.

E. WE WILL REVIEW OUR EQUIPMENT TO ASSURE A MISSIONWIDE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM.

2. OTHER PROTECTIVE SECURITY MEASURES OR PROCEDURES WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN IMPLEMENTED SINCE THE ASSASSINATION OF TWO MILITARY OFFICERS ON MAY 21. INCLUDE:

A. LETTERS TO ALL AMERICANS IN THE OFFICIAL AND BUSINESS COMMUNITY OFFERING ADVICE ON PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES FOR PERSONAL SECURITY IN THEIR RESIDENCE, SECURITY OF CHILDREN, MOVEMENT AND MAIL SECURITY, KIDNAP SITUATIONS, METHODS OF REPORTING TO THE U.S. MISSION SECURITY ELEMENTS AS WELL AS TO LOCAL POLICE AUTHORITIES, DEFENSIVE-DRIVING FILM-SHOWINGS, RELATIONSHIPS WITH DOMESTIC SERVANTS, SECURITY ORIENTATION LECTURES BY THE RSO TO OFFICIALS PERSONNEL OF THE U.S. MISSION, AND THE PUBLICATION OF GENERAL COMMON SENSE TIPS.

B. COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE OF SECURITY RECOMMENDING THE SPEEDUP OF ARMORING OF OFFICIALS VEHICLES, THE PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS, AND THE VISIT OF AN ADVISORY TEAM.

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C. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ASSURED BY THE DEPARTMENT THAT THE TDY RSO POSITION WILL BE COVERED AT ALL TIMES DURING THE HOME-LEAVE ABSENCE OF THE REGULAR RSO.

3. WE DO NOT BELIEVE WE HAVE A NEED AT THIS TIME FOR HELP BEYOND WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN REQUESTED FROM SY. IF HOWEVER, YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS BASED ON EXPERIENCE DEVELOPED IN DEALING WITH SIMILAR SITUATIONS ELSEWHERE, PLEASE ADVISE.

HELMS

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